MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 SEPTEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Security Situation -- The Lebanese Army has taken control of all west Beirut and the southern suburb apart from the airport, which the Israelis are expected to evacuate shortly, Beirut radio reported early on 27 September, citing Lebanese military sources. The previous day, Voice of Lebanon radio said the Israelis continued to evacuate west Beirut but were maintaining a symbolic presence in the harbor and Al-Awza'i. The IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio that Israel will complete the evacuation of its forces from west Beirut by 29 September. Jerusalem radio said the United States, France and Italy informed Israel that they will not deploy the multinational force in Beirut until the IDF leaves the city. Nevertheless, the French had landed 670 men by 25 September, although the Italians delayed their disembarkation until the following day when the Israelis agreed to withdraw from the port, according to Beirut radio and AFP. Meanwhile, sources cited by AFP revealed that President Amin al-Jumayyil has urged the French and Italians to protect the Palestinian refugee camps.

Israeli forces in Beirut, sustained casualties in several incidents over the weekend. An IDF soldier was killed and two others were wounded by gunfire on 24 September while three more Israelis were wounded by a mine the following day, according to Jerusalem television and radio reports. In other incidents on 25 September, three Israelis disappeared and another was wounded by gunfire, AFP reported.

In the mountains east of Beirut four UNIFIL officers -- including two Americans -- were killed by a landmine on 25 September, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio also said the Syrians have reduced the number of tanks deployed in the Al-Biqa' Valley but have brought antitank missiles into the area.

Al-Jumayyil Statements, Activities -- President al-Jumayyil again denied that the Phalangists and their supporters were involved in the massacre of Palestinians in Beirut, according to a KUNA report of an interview given by Al-Jumayyil to the Austrian paper KRONEN ZEITUNG. However, THE JERUSALEM POST said that in contacts with the United Nations Al-Jumayyil has admitted that a few Phalangists were involved but has charged that the bulk of the troops in the camps were Israelis.

Over the weekend the president participated in working meetings on security, administrative and judicial matters with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Voice of Lebanon radio noted. Despite the prime minister's submission of his resignation on 24 September, Al-Jumayyil has requested that Al-Wazzan continue in his post until a new government is formed, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. The radio also reported that in an interview with U.S. television, Al-Jumayyil said the Lebanese Government and legislature will decide whether Lebanon should sign a peace treaty with Israel. He said Lebanon will not support a "false" peace treaty, but wants real peace with all countries in the area, according to a related Voice of Lebanon radio report. Diplomatic sources cited by Radio Free Lebanon said President al-Jumayyil will deliver Lebanon's speech at the UN General Assembly on 7 October and that he may also meet President Ronald Reagan in Washington.

Junblatt on Al-Jumayyil, Dialogue -- President al-Jumayyil's inaugural policy statement was useful and positive but if the Lebanese Front continues its relations with Israel the Lebanese National Movement will be unable to start any dialogue with the front's Walid Junblatt, Progressive Socialist Party and National Movement leader, stated in a Monte Carlo radio interview during his current visit to France.

Habib Mission

Jordan's King Husayn received U.S. envoy Philip Habib for talks on the Lebanese situation, Amman radio reported on 26 September. Monte Carlo radio said the talks may have also touched on President Reagan's Middle East peace plan. Habib is expected to visit Damascus and Cairo next, the radio said.

Israel

The Cabinet will decide on 28 September to set up a national judicial inquiry commission into the Beirut massacre, Jerusalem radio reported on 26 September. The radio had earlier reported Supreme Court Justice Yitzhaq Kahan's decision not to consider at present the Cabinet's request that he investigate the massacre. Kahan explained that the Cabinet's appeal is sub judice until the Supreme Court has dealt with appeals it has received for the establishment of a state commission of inquiry.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said in a 24 September Jerusalem television interview that he will accept any kind of inquiry into the Beirut massacre that the Cabinet decides to establish. Denying the charge that Israel was responsible for the massacre because it had entered west Beirut in order to guarantee law and order, Sharon said Israel's declared aim of entering west Beirut to prevent violence concealed its true objective, which was to eliminate the infrastructure left by the PLO in Beirut, including 2,000 armed men and vast quantities of arms, and to ensure that Beirut could not again become a "terrorist center." Claiming that the public argument in Israel about the Lebanon war is endangering Israel's existence, Sharon disclosed that on one occasion he was forced to provoke a decision to mobilize an IDF reserves brigade because opposition to the war had made the unit's mobilization impossible.

THE JERUSALEM POST said Sharon's disclosures have weakened his position in the Cabinet. The POST called for Sharon's resignation and, according to Jerusalem radio, an IDF division commander also has demanded the resignation of either Sharon or Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Meanwhile, 400,000 people participated in a 25 September rally in Tel Aviv calling for a state commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacre, the radio reported citing police estimates of the size of the demonstration. Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres told the crowd that a different Israel exists, which lives by its conscience not just its sword, according to remarks broadcast by Jerusalem television.

Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan told IDF soldiers in a message broadcast by IDF radio that the anguish expressed over the massacre by the nations of the world is "insincere."

PLO

The PLO leadership has decided to unite all its forces outside Syria under one command, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announced in a speech to Palestinian combatants in the PDRY, broadcast by Aden Voice of Palestine radio. He again blamed President Reagan, as well as the Israeli Government, for the massacre in Beirut.

'Arafat subsequently arrived in Saudi Arabia, where he called for a "jihad" to liberate Jerusalem, according to reports by SPA. MENA reported that the PLO leader is likely to visit Egypt in October, and PLO sources cited by INA disclosed that 'Arafat will soon visit Moscow.

Algeria

Police forcibly dispersed demonstrators attempting to march on the U.S. Embassy on 25 September, according to AFP. The marchers, who were protesting the Beirut massacres, denounced Arab "silence and treachery" over the killings. A similar demonstration was dispersed the following day, AFP said.

PDRY

The PDRY and YAR must take further steps toward Yemeni unity through a fraternal and democratic dialogue, PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stated in a 25 September speech broadcast by Aden radio.

Iranian Pilgrims in Saudi Arabia

Saudi police broke up a gathering of Iranian pilgrims in Mecca on 24 September and arrested Iranian pilgrim supervisor Musavi-Kho'ini, Tehran radio reported. The Iranian Foreign Ministry issued a statement, carried by the radio, condemning the beatings and arrests of pilgrims and accusing the Saudis of violence and provocation to silence pilgrims who demonstrated against Israel and the United States. The statement called on the Saudis to allow such demonstrations. After several hours, Musavi-Kho'ini was released, but a number of other Iranians are still under arrest and 30 were wounded, IRNA claimed. In a statement carried by Riyadh radio, a Saudi Interior Ministry source confirmed that Saudi security forces had dispersed a gathering of Iranian pilgrims, asserting that the assembly had disturbed pilgrims and was a violation of the hajj and Saudi laws.

Iran-Iraq War

Khamene'i Speech -- Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, in a speech to troops in the western front, said Iran will not wait forever before reacting to the "conspiracy" of nations who want it to remain in a position of neither peace nor war, Tehran radio reported. He asserted that Iran has not yet taken the "last step" against Iraq because it respects efforts for a settlement, but that the Iranian position of "patience and silence" may change. Khamene'i affirmed that the battles will continue in defense of Iranian territory and later told reporters that shortages and problems in the military have improved and that morale is still high, the radio said.

Hammadi Discusses War, Syria -- Interviewed by the paper ATH-THAWRAH on 26 September, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi emphasized that if Iran carries out new attacks against Iraqi territory, Iraq will contact Arab nations to implement the Fes Arab summit resolution on Arab unity against an aggression. He claimed that Iraq continues to have the initiative in battle, especially in air and naval activities. He criticized Syria's support for Iran but reaffirmed that Iraq has tried to settle its differences with Syria.

Military Situation -- An Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio on 25 September claimed that 23 Iranians died from shelling in the central battle sector; IRNA and Tehran radio reports said that over 50 Iraqis were killed near Mehran and that part of the Al-Faw oil installations in Iraq were destroyed.

Pakistan

President Ziaul Haq described Pakistan's relations with the PRC as "excellent" and said he is hopeful that Indo-Pakistani relations will continue with the current positive trend. In an interview with the BANGKOK POST, Haq stressed that Pakistan is not receiving military assistance from the United States, but instead is only purchasing military equipment from the Americans. He said there is no question that the Afghan refugees in Pakistan will return to their country once Soviet troops leave, and appealed for more assistance from other countries for the refugees. Nuclear energy will be used for "peaceful purposes," he emphasized, adding that Pakistan has no intention of acquiring or manufacturing nuclear weapons. On domestic issues, Haq expressed satisfaction with the economic situation and said a representative Islamic government with election is the ultimate objective for his government.

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GANDHI RETURNS FROM WEEKLONG USSR VISIT

BK261243 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi returned to New Delhi this evening after a weeklong visit to the Soviet Union. She was received at the airport by her Cabinet colleagues, Congress-I leaders and workers and others. Talking to newsmen, Mrs Gandhi expressed the hope that her visit will help in further strengthening friendship and economic cooperation between the two countries.

About the Palestinian massacre in west Beirut, she said it was a most barbaric happening. Both India and the Soviet Union have condemned it.

About the Nonaligned Movement, she said it is very much relevant today. The movement has helped in lessening tension in many parts of the world, the prime minister added.

Arrival Statement

BK261624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi returned to New Delhi this evening after a weeklong visit to the Soviet Union. Mrs Gandhi was welcomed by a large number of people, including her Cabinet colleagues, the Congress-I leaders on her arrival at Delhi airport. Talking to newsmen the prime minister stressed the need to make the Nonaligned Movement more effective to promote peace and harmony. She said the movement is more relevant in the present day world situation. She said the main purpose of the Nonaligned Movement is to lessen tension. There is, however, a need to bring about greater cohesiveness in the movement.

About her visit to the Soviet Union, Mrs Gandhi said it has helped in strengthening the existing friendship and enlarging economic cooperation between the two countries. She expressed the hope that the Soviet people now have a better understanding of India's policies and problems.

About the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, the prime minister said they are there because this is the way the Afghan Government feels. [sentence as heard] But why other rebels being helped with arms by some other countries, she asked? [sentence as heard] Such countries should be asked to stop helping the rebels. Mrs Gandhi said it is difficult to ask a government to remove someone who is helping them.

The prime minister was asked to compare her visit to the United States with her Soviet visit. She said the two were entirely different. But one thing, she said, both were good-will visits. India wants friendship with all countries. About the Soviet Union, she said: It has helped us in times of need and has also assisted us in our industrial development.

About the Soviet offer to set up a 1,000-mw nuclear power station in India, Mrs Gandhi said no decision has been taken so far. Mrs Gandhi described her visit to the city of Kiev as very interesting and said it is one of the most beautiful green areas she had ever seen. She said Indian people need to learn a lot from the people of Kiev. She said there is 20 meters of green patch for every citizen in that city.

AFP Report

BK261555 Hong Kong AFP in English 1434 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 26 (AFP) -- Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who returned here this evening after a week-long official visit to the Soviet Union, said that no decision had been made on setting up a 1,000-mw nuclear power station in India with Soviet assistance.

At New Delhi's Palam Airport Mrs Gandhi told the press that the details of the Soviet offer to set up such a plant had not yet been worked out and would "be gone into by technical teams." The prime minister said the Soviets had expressed particular concern that the plant should be safe.

She said her visit was intended to strengthen the existing friendship and further widen the economic cooperation between the two countries.

Asked to compare her visit to the United States last month and the just concluded one to the Soviet Union, Mrs Gandhi said the two were entirely different. "One common thing is, both were goodwill visits," she added.

The prime minister pointed out that the Soviet Union had stood by India in its moments of need. It had been the first country to help India in its industrial development. "Today we seek friendship with all countries," she said.

This time or any time, her aim was only to increase goodwill between the countries, she said.

Replying to questions on the Non-aligned Movement, the prime minister said India had always worked for peace, disarmament and specially for nuclear disarmament. She said one of the movement's important tasks was to make the people more conscious of the danger involved in nuclear war. To be more effective, she said, it should raise its voice for restoring peace and harmony in the world.

On the Afghanistan issue, the prime minister said she had made known her views several times. She said the rebels in Afghanistan were being helped with weapons from other countries.

Asked about her comments on leftist parties in India, Mrs Gandhi said she made them during her talks with the Soviet leaders when she gave "a bird's eye view" of the political and economic situation in India. She added that her comments had also been prompted by the attitude of those parties on India's foreign policy. Mrs Gandhi said that if the Communist Party of India (pro-Moscow) thought that the Janata Party (considered rightists here) were more progressive than her Congress Party, it was for the world to think whether they were correct.

INDIAN COMMUNISTS REACT TO GANDHI CHARGES

BK251410 Hong Kong AFP in English 1314 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] New Delhi, Sep 15 (AFP) -- The Communist Party of India (CPI) today described as "unfortunate" Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's remark in the Soviet Union that it had ganged up with the rightists to weaken and destabilise her government.

The party took strong exception to her raising "such internal issues" with the Soviet leaders during her talks with them, the CPI Secretary General C. Rajeswara Rao told the press.

The HINDUSTAN TIMES daily reported today from the Soviet Union that Mrs Gandhi had discussed the matter with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko. She apparently wanted Moscow to discipline the Indian communists, the paper added.

Mr Rao said that no amount of "vituperative attack" by Mrs Gandhi would deflect them from fighting the anti-people and anti-democratic policies of her government. "We are for building a left democratic national alternative to the ruling party and not for a rightist alternative," he said.

Mr Rao said poverty, unemployment, inflation, corruption and police repression stalked the country as a result of the capitalist path that Mrs Gandhi was pursuing. "She is taking away the democratic rights of the people, the latest example being the obnoxious Bihar press bill," he said.

KHO'INI RELEASED AFTER SEVERAL HOURS' DETENTION

GF241610 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] Mecca, Sept 24, IRNA -- Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini, the representative of Imam Khomeyni to Mecca, Ayatollah Jannati, a member of the Council of Guardians, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami, the Majlis deputy from Ardakan (in Yazd Province), were released today after several hours of detention by the Saudi police.

The arrests occurred after the police and the security forces rushed into the gathering cite of Iranian pilgrims and tore pictures of Imam Khomeyni and confiscated the Iranian national flag along with other written slogans.

The Iranian pilgrims along with many other pilgrims from Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Turkey, Pakistan, Yemen, Iraq, the UAE; and Palestine, had mostly left the city and were marching to the sacred mosque here, to observe Friday prayers, shouting anti-Zionist and anti-American slogans but were later told to abandon their slogans in order to avoid police harassment. However, the Iranian pilgrims did distribute Imam Khomeyni's translated message on the occasion of hajj as they were being assaulted by police using batons, tear-gas and water cannons all along their route towards the sacred mosque.

In spite of the treatment by the police against the pilgrims, the marchers tried to maintain their orderly manner. However, cameras and tape-recorders of Iranian reporters were confiscated along the way and Saudi helicopters were seen flying over the scene of the march.

Before the release of the detained Iranians, the Iranian pilgrims had threatened to stage a sit-in at the sacred mosque until all of the detainees were released.

In today's incident 30 Iranian pilgrims were injured as a result of police brutality who are presently being treated at local clinics here.

Also a group of Iranian who were arrested along with the Iranian officials have been kept under detention and there has been no information concerning their whereabouts.

Foreign Ministry Statement

LD241802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Foreign Ministry statement issued in connection with arrest of Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, head of the Iranian hajj mission, and other pilgrims in Saudi Arabia]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. These gentlemen supported the person who disgraced them so much and who then set fire to Beirut and southern Lebanon. Now people are not allowed to say "Death to Israel" in Saudi Arabia -- Imam Khomeyni.

Once again the terrorizing and crushing machine of Saudi Arabia has broken the orderly ranks of unity-seeking Muslims and, by creating an atmosphere of violence, provocation and threat, has to silence their anti-oppression and anti-Zionist cries and has tried to stop their united movement toward the unifying prayers of Muslims held in the security of the house of God.

In this confrontation a large number of committed brothers and sisters were injured, beaten and arrested. The brothers and sisters who were angry because of the violent attacks of the Zionist regime on the undefended and innocent Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, which no doubt originated from the atmosphere of [word indistinct] and compromise resulting from the summit conference of reactionary Arab leaders in Fes, Morocco, intended to make their cries of protest at all these crimes and conspiracies heard in the sanctity of the holy ka'bah and, in unison with Muslims from other countries, they tried to demonstrate the glorious power of Islam before criminals and traitors.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran condemns the repeated difficulties made by the Government of Saudi Arabia for the pilgrims and Iranian officials and the acts of such oppressive policies, believing that the house of God belongs to all Muslims and is the trench of coordinated attack by the world's Muslims against the centers of world oppression. All Muslims in the holy shrine must prepare to confront the enemies of God by jihad and selflessness and, by exposing and fostering a united view and direction, thus come closer to His exalted presence. The compromise and silence of the reactionary leaders of Islamic countries toward the attacks launched by the enemies of God and Islam could thereby be foiled.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the creation of oppression in response to the exposing cries of the pilgrims as a step toward the interests of imperialism and world Zionism. While expressing anxiety at the imposition of even more difficult conditions on Muslims in the future, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs asks the Saudi regime to leave the nation of Islam free to expose the crimes of Eastern and Western oppression, of usurping Israel and its supporter, the criminal America, and to create conditions which will enable the pilgrims to carry out the political and religious hajj ceremonies in a way acceptable to merciful God.

Kho'ini Condemns Saudi Behavior

GF250604 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] In relation to the rough treatment of the Iranian pilgrims by the police of Saudi Arabia, Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini, the representative of the imam for hajj affairs and supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, has issued a statement. In this statement, Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini harshly condemns the inhumane and anti-Muslim behavior of the security officials of Saudi Arabia toward the Iranian pilgrims.

In one part of this statement, pointing to the need for anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist combat, the imam's representative for hajj affairs says: Why should the Government of Saudi Arabia be more concerned with taking care of the peace of the United States and Israel than with the security of the pilgrims to the sacred house of God?

Another part of this statement says: The nation of Islam is awake now and has found its way and no power can stand against it. The Muslims, especially the brave and the martyr-producing nation of Iran, are determined to fight Israel and its boss, the United States, until they die. Instead of standing against the will of their nations, the governments should support them. They should be warned by the past because the help and aid of God is with the nations and His destruction and devastation is with the enemies of the nations.

Further Details

GF250849 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims, noted the stands of some of the Islamic countries' leaders toward the Zionist entity and said: The thing that arouses our astonishment and surprise is why some of those who claim to struggle against the Zionist entity refrain from condemning this entity and fear to see their nations join the movement of struggle against this usurping entity, even though the struggle against this entity is considered a popular duty? The peoples want to remove this cancerous tumor from among the Muslim countries.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, speaking to a group of correspondents in Mecca, added: Some of the Islamic countries' leaders who seek peace with the Zionist entity must know that the usurping entity will not be content with Palestine and part of the Lebanese territory. It will seize their countries one after another.

The imam's representative denounced the violent actions of the Saudi security men and police against the Iranian pilgrims in God's sacred house. He said: Such actions of the Saudi police please the United States and the Zionist entity.

RAFSANJANI SPEAKS ON IRANIAN WAR INTENTIONS

LD241454 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Sermon by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, provisional Friday imam of Tehran, during Friday prayers on 24 September at Tehran University -- recorded]

[Excerpt] Saddam and his supporters listen carefully: [Words indistinct] they must listen to what I want to say. Today, and if not today then in a few days, on every front our long-range guns will be able to bring up to 50 km of Iraqi territory under fire. [chants of "God is great" and other inaudible slogans] [passage indistinct]

You, Saddam's supporters, know well that we have these arms and guns at our disposal, that we have not yet used them and that at such a range they are only good for making holes. We have both guns and ammunition, and enough of them to cover every front. You know that Iraq's main centers are situated to the east of the Tigris and the Euphrates; even if we do not enter Iraqi territory we can make Iraq suffer from this point if we want. However, you know that we have no quarrel with the Iraqi people: We suffer to see that we have made an Iraqi Arab family homeless by a shell that we fired, and today we still practice patience and slowness on [word indistinct] front.

We want to fight to achieve our rights and throw Saddam and the Ba'th Party out of the region in such a way that will not make millions of Iraqi people homeless. This is the strategy and principle of our Islamic movement. We waited after the Ramadan Operation and took the world's news sources and commentators by surprise. For example, an American Orientalist said that the situation in Iran is such that although we can predict the Kremlin's future plans we cannot understand those of the leaders of the Islamic Republic, because we are unable to understand their standard.

If you were in our place, and held your guns aimed at Basra, you would shell the one million inhabitants of Basra, rendering them all homeless. If Saddam has one million refugees he will fall. We do not act in accordance with your standards. You are people who, in order to kick the Palestinians out of Lebanon, go to Lebanon and raid the camps and indiscriminately massacre civilian women and children, thus making the homeless Palestinians even more homeless. We do not do these kinds of things; that is why you are incapable of analyzing our actions. If you wish to analyze them, come and study the Koran first and then learn who a Muslim fights; read the history of Islamic battles to see what advice the prophet used to give when he deployed armies: [Words indistinct] do not pursue those who have fled, do not inflict a second wound on those who are already wounded, be careful not to ruin churches, do not fight those who do not fight you, do not throw mud into other people's water wells; these were the prophet's orders. We do not fight to rule, we fight for Islam and piety.

The reason we oppose Saddam [words indistinct] is that [words indistinct] this is a man who conspires together with Israel against the Muslims. We do not fight for no reason; we are still defending. Oh, you the so-called civilized world: Our Naftshahr is still in Iraq's hands, our western heights are still in Iraq's hands, and after 2 years the Iraqis are still extracting oil from our oil wells in Naftshahr, yet they say they want peace. If you are incapable of analyzing the situation in Iran come and acquaint yourselves with the Islamic culture and you will be able to analyze it. [Words indistinct] if one day we see that the opponent (?is not going to surrender) we shall release our shells. We will inform the Iraqi people and warn them to leave their houses; we shall tell them that we are coming, (?take their houses) and build them again when they leave.... [Rafsanjani is interrupted by the crowd chanting slogans]

The oppressive world's conscience is dead and following this death its senses have also died; its criteria are rotten oppressive standards, and it is a follower of force. Israel showed its teeth in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, the weak and oppressed people voted for the Phalange Party, a party which is the main organization responsible for what happened in the camps. The oppressive world is like this. When our guns started roaring, when our star shells flew over Basra for one hour and illuminated everywhere, the policies of these Arab countries changed from those of the previous day. (?They follow) fear and force.

We do not want it to happen, but if we see you do not understand logic then we shall show our strength. We hope it will not come to this, that before we advance into part of Iraqi territory and achieve our rights in this way, before the destruction of Iraq they will give us our rights, put Saddam on trial and clarify the truth. We make no demands on any neighboring country, in the north, south or west of the Gulf. North of the Gulf belongs to us, Baghdad is situated in the west of the Gulf which belongs to Iraq; as soon as we reach our borders or [word indistinct] when the war is over, we shall not advance an inch beyond our borders. We shall never (?sacrifice) people's lives for territory, we do so only for virtue. You know this.

KHAMENE'I: NO CHOICE BUT TO USE FORCE IN WAR

LD261956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, our country's president and head of the Supreme Defense Council, accompanied by [Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi] the ground forces commander, toured the western fronts this morning.

Immediately after arriving in Bakhtaran, Mr Khamene'i left for the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts by helicopter. While in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, the president inspected the Islamic forces' concentrations and fortifications. During this inspection tour, commanders informed the president of the Islamic forces' situation as well as declared the Islamic combatants' preparedness to fight the aggressor enemy until final victory over the infidel force.

Later, the president attended a gathering in a military headquarters and addressed a large number of the Islamic combatants. In his remarks, the president stressed the Divine's blessings for the forces of Islam during the imposed war and said: As a result of cooperation, help and assistance existing between the nation and the armed forces and their combatants, no enemy can stand against you or against our nation. We knew and were aware of this fact right from the beginning of this imposed war. Today, too, we can see this trend and we look forward to seeing a much brighter future and horizon.

Continuing his speech, the president addressed the combatants of Islam and added: You should be assured that the effort you are rendering today is sacred and victorious. Not only will you expel the enemy from your territories, just as you have already expelled the enemy from the most important ones, but, God willing, you will cut off the aggressor's hand forever.

The president and head of the Supreme Defense Council added: We are prepared to counter any enemy. Of course, we are not warmongers, but at the same time we will not remain silent against warmongers. We are certain that the determining factor is faith, high morale and assurance upon the Divine's blessing and assistance, not so-called sophisticated and invincible weapons. The only sophisticated and invincible thing is human determination, which we possess. We have our hearts filled with faith in God. There is no weapon which can counter such a heart.

Elaborating on the reason for the forces of Islam assuming a stationary position at the battlefronts, the president said:

[Begin recording] The reason why we have not shown any urgency in taking the last step is because we respect the efforts directed at achieving our righteous and just rights. But this does not mean that we will continue to assume this position of patience and silence. We will take the last step; we will make the enemy regret its aggression. [chants of "God willing"]

Supporters of the enemy, those who helped our enemy with money, weapons and human resources, should know that we will not wait forever for the realization of their conspiracy in keeping us in a state of neither war nor peace. This is our right. It is our right to defend our rights and ourselves. If we ignore defending ourselves and our rights and do not give our enemy a lesson, history will never forgive us, this nation will never forgive us. Our revolution expects us to do our best, and to mobilize all our power and use and spend it, thus cutting off the hands of the enemies of this revolution and the hands of those aggressors who have stretched their arms to cut our revolution's red flowers. And we will do this. Along our long borders, from north to south, from areas where the enemy has invaded us, whether in the west, whether in the Ilam region or in Khuzestan, all these areas will remain to us as battlefields. From whichever area we consider necessary and/or decide upon we will enter [Iraq] and suppress the enemy. [end recording]

Following his tour of the fronts and talks with the combatants of Islam, Mr Khamene'i, the president, inspected Bakhtaran's Airborne Division base and the western operational headquarters respectively, and was briefed by the military commanders on the Islamic forces' positions and strategies for countering Saddam's defeated and aggressor forces.

The president later spoke to reporters on the aims of his tour of the war fronts.

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. It is important for me to see our fronts from close quarters and to assess our forces' condition. As far as quality is concerned I must say that our forces enjoy excellent quality. They also have high morale and an appetite for offensives and to continue the fight and preparedness for successful operations. As I see it, our situation is fortunately very good. To compare with the past, well, we must confess that in the past we had a series of shorcomings and shortages. Fortunately, those shortages and shortcomings have been gradually reduced.

As far as morale is concerned there is no change. I visited these fronts before, about a year and a few months ago. The same state of high morale existed then, even though a major part of our territory was in enemy hands. The state of morale of our forces was excellent, as a result of which we now have our own territory in our hands, and our forces with their sacrifices and dedication have been able to recapture the lost territories and force the enemy to retreat across the border. Of course, we must realize that part of our territory is still in enemy hands; not everywhere is the enemy across the border. In certain places, although the enemy forces are across the border, they are stationed on heights, and we must continue with our efforts to expel them from our territories, especially from the strategic heights overlooking our territories, so as to recapture our lands.

As during the last Friday prayers, our dear brother, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, and I too had said before, Naftshahr is still in enemy hands and we must regain these territories. Of course, our task does not end there. During the past 2 years many of our rights have been spoiled and wasted. We must also get what is due us, as is our right, from the enemy. Of course, you know that this enemy only understands the rule of force. If this enemy could understand any other language except the language of force we would have not insisted on the use of force. But we have no choice but to use force on the battlefields and at the fronts in order to obtain our rights from the enemy. [end recording]

Mr Khamene'i returned to Tehran today.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES ON WAR

1,057: 24 Sep Report

GF241930 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,057 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Exchanges of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued in the western operational areas of the country. These exchanges were heaviest in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Meymak. The heroic forces of Islam strongly returned the fire of the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries, silencing their artillery and inflicting heavy losses on the aggressor Saddamist forces.

In the area of Panjwin, Iraq, the enemy sustained some losses as a result of the heavy fire of the Muslim fighters.

The results of the operations on the western fronts are as follows: the destruction of several enemy trenches and the silencing of sources of enemy fire; the prevention of the movement of Iraqi forces along the whole front; damage or destruction of a number of enemy tanks and vehicles; and killing or wounding of a significant number of Saddamist forces.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued on the southern fronts. The fiercest of such exchanges took place on the fronts of the Ramadan Operation.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the heroic Muslim fighters returned enemy fire, preventing the movement of Saddamist units and inflicting heavy losses on them. The Islamic forces heavily pounded enemy concentrations on the other side of the Arvand Rud, inflicting heavy losses on the Ba'thist mercenaries.

On another front near Abadan, the heroes of Islam opened heavy fire on Saddamist enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroying an ammunition dump, three observation posts and two machinegun positions and killing a group of Saddamists.

The heroic city of Abadan was the target of long-range enemy fire yesterday. As a result, one house was destroyed and two of our dear citizens were wounded.

The Saddamist enemy's aircraft tried to violate our airspace yesterday but were intercepted and driven off by our Islam-defending forces.

1,058: 25 Sep Report

LD251832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,058 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. While expressing our condolences on the anniversary of the martyrdom of the fifth star of the imams, Imam Mohammad Baqer, peace be upon him, a summary of the battle operations of the past 24 hours is hereby brought to your attention:

Exchange of fire continued yesterday in the western operational region and in Shur-e Shirin the exchange of fire was more intense. On the (Faradezh) heights and in the 59th region [as heard] a heavy exchange of fire continued. The results of the operations carried out by our forces are as follows: destroying a part of the Kan-e Sakht garrison in Iraq; stopping the activities of the engineering units of the Saddamist forces; silencing the enemy's artillery fire; and killing or (?wounding) a number of Iraqi military personnel.

In the southern operational regions, the combative forces of Islam consolidated and established their positions, carried out defensive operations and dispatched antitank squads. Several enemy fuel tanks, personnel entrenchments and warfare equipment were set on fire and destroyed by the fire of our heavy weapons on enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud.

During enemy mortar fire on residential districts of Abadan yesterday, a house was destroyed and part of a government building caught fire, injuring four of our compatriots.

On 22 and 23 September, a total of 21 Ground Forces personnel, and four Gendarmerie personnel of the Islamic Republic of Iran were martyred in operational regions. May their way continue. Their memories are dear to us.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

1,059: 26 Sep Report

LD261806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,059 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The situation at the fronts of the imposed war over the past 24 hours is brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

Yesterday exchanges of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued on the western fronts. In the Shur-e Shirin sectors, the exchanges of fire were more intense than in other sectors. On these fronts, the ground forces returned and silenced the enemy's fire and, by destroying some of their positions, prevented enemy movement.

On the southern fronts, the combatants of Islam bravely defended their sectors. They maintained their sectors and kept the Ba'thist forces of Iraq under total control, fortifying their own positions and continuing their defensive firing. Ambushes by antitank units dealt the necessary blows at the mercenary Saddamists. On each of the fronts, they destroyed several Saddamist trenches and weapons and killed several of their personnel.

During the past 24 hours, the navy and gendarmerie combatants on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts brought enemy positions and fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud under fire, inflicting losses and casualties on the Saddamists. As a result of criminal Saddamist fire on the residential areas of Abadan, parts of a hospital and a house caught fire and a number of houses and a mosque were damaged.

The air force self-sacrificers and the ever-wakeful combatants of the antiaircraft units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran repelled enemy aggressions on all the western and southern sectors and forced the invading enemy planes to flee.

PART OF AL-FAW OIL INSTALLATIONS 'SMASHED'

LD262256 Tehran IRNA in English 2023 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Sept. 26, IRNA -- Exchanges of artillery fire continued in the southern fronts of Shalamcheh, Kushk border strip, east of Basra and on the Arvand River banks with the Islamic combatants holding the upper hand over the past 24 hours.

In these operations, a part of Al-Faw oil installations, southern Iraq, was smashed and 11 Iraqi soldiers were killed while the Iranian forces destroyed one enemy's munitions depot, 12 bunkers, one loader, one trailer, one crane and three watch posts.

GUARDS CORPS KILLS, CAPTURES REBELS IN WEST

LD261828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] The Central Public Relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, quoting a Hamzeh Seyyed Ash-Shohada garrison report, listed some of the operations of the combatants of Islam in the west of the country:

On 25 September, the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the self-sacrificers of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in a coordinated operation, liberated the Bazargan heights and cleansed seven villages on the Piranshah-Sar Dasht axis of the filthy presence of counterrevolutionaries. During the operation, several counterrevolutionaries were arrested and three mortars, a heavy machinegun and number of vehicles, together with some documents, fell into the hands of the forces of Islam.

On 24 September in a clash between the self-sacrificers of Islam and armed rebels in the (Takab Darreh Belah) region, 10 counterrevolutionaries were killed and 12 were arrested. Quantities of arms and ammunition fell into the hands of the forces of Islam during the incident.

In the Divan Darreh region, the forces of Islam, during a coordinated operation, arrested 16 rebels and killed 2 others. Quantities of arms, including two 50-caliber machineguns and a number of light weapons fell into the hands of the forces of Islam.

MUSAVI CHAIRS, COMMENTS ON CABINET SESSION

LD261636 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] The Cabinet held a session today chaired by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, in which the current affairs of the country were reviewed. The prime minister, at the end of today's Cabinet session and after his meeting with the imam of the nation, gave an interview and answered questions put to him about different issues.

The prime minister, commenting on the outcome of the protests made by Muslims against the crimes committed by Zionists said: I think one of the greatest characteristics of the Islamic revolution abroad has been its exposing role. In this connection we have played this role before all other nations. The Islamic revolution, in order to restore the dignity of other nations, has played this part in full, and this will result in widespread awareness among Muslim nations, and will affect the [word indistinct] of governments throughout Islamic countries. He said: The most important weapon we have in our hands is the inclination and the will of the oppressed nations toward the Islamic revolution.

Mr Musavi, referring to relations between Saddam and the occupying regime of Al-Quds, said: Saddam has special relations with Jordan and other reactionary countries of the region and the Lebanese Phalagists, which in itself reveals the Ba'thist Zionist nature of Saddam's regime.

The prime minister, on the forthcoming trip by the delegation from the Islamic Conference, led by Mr Ahmed Sekou Toure, to mediate in the war imposed by the Ba'thist Zionist regime of Iraq on the Islamic Republic of Iran, said: We have repeatedly announced our conditions. Mr Sekou Toure, who is a qualified and good leader of Africa, is coming to see new realities in the region. Just as before, we will voice our views, since our conditions will not be hidden from the people.

SYRIAN ENVOY ON 'TACTICAL DIFFERENCES'

LD260228 Tehran IRNA in English 1936 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept 25, IRNA -- "We do not have any differences with Iran on strategic issues but in tactics. It is natural that anyone [as received] has his own special way," said Syrian Ambassador to Tehran Ibrahim al-Yunis in an interview published here today.

He commented to the daily "ETTELA'AT" reporter that Syria's participation in the Fes summit was very effective in rejecting conciliatory proposals.

He added that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad had exerted much efforts in the summit in order to prevent the Arab countries from reocgnizing the Zionist regime. "We will never recognize Israel," he said.

Al-Yunis also said that he did not sight any evidence of cooperation between the members of steadfastness front in relation to the Fes summit. "There exists no difference between the steadfastness countries, their delegations were in harmony with each other, but they did not have a unified position," he said. The ambassador added that his country "does not have any differences with Libya on this issue" and that Libya's boycott of the summit "was Libya's own business."

On the killing of Bashir al-Jumayyil, he said that Syria believed that the Zionist regime had committed the murder so that it could have an excuse for creating disturbances and to continue its presence in Lebanon. "For us personalities are not important. We want a national and independent government to take office in Lebanon," Al-Yunis said, adding that the Zionists should be dealt with force because "they do not understand any language but the language of force."

BANKI COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH CSSR OFFICIALS

LD251446 Tehran IRNA in English 0922 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept 25 (IRNA) -- Plan and Budget Organisation head Dr Mohammad Taqi Banki Friday evening said that Iran was for the security in the region as "it is in the interest of Iran and its friends."

Banki, talking to the IRNA while on his way back from Prague, Czechoslovakia were he went at the head of the Iranian delegation for talks on bilateral political, economic and commerical issues, said that during his stay in that country Iran's stand was explained to the Czech authorities.

He said that on the war issue it was explained that Iran was in favor of peace but pointed out that Iran wanted peace in its true sense.

He said that according to Iran, the aggressor should be punished in such a way that it could never commit such crimes against the deprived nation.

He recalled his meeting with Czech Premier Lubomir Strougal and said that he was convinced but urged that the war should end.

Banki said that he reiterated the Iranian stand that the "fulfillment of the Iranian terms is a must to end the war."

On the economic issue, he said that discussions were held on the bilateral agreements which signed earlier. The present difficulties in the way for the implementation of those accords were discussed along with the bottlenecks in the joint projects.

Banki said that possibilities for the exploration of more areas for the reciprocal cooperation in the production fields were also discussed. Special emphasis was made for the plans concerning with the construction of the war-torn areas, he said and added that the two countries agreed in principle on certain projects.

He said that geological survey was another topic for the bilateral discussion in Prague. He said that the Iranian mines were to be explored in order to make the country self-sufficient in various industrial products which would pave the way for the export of the domestic industrial production in future.

He said that the results of this visit to Czechoslovakia "are very positive."